



September 9, 2013

Ex Parte

Ms. Marlene Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Connect America Fund, WC Docket No. 10-90, High-Cost Universal
Service Support, WC Docket No. 05-337

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On Thursday, September 5, 2013, Jeff Lanning (CenturyLink), Hank Hultquist (AT&T), Eric Einhorn (Windstream), Maggie McCready (Verizon), Mike Skrivan (FairPoint) and the undersigned met with Margaret Weiner (WTB), Martha Stancill (WTB) and Carol Matthey, Amy Bender, Alexander Minard and Eric Ralphs (WCB) to discuss a recently filed white paper on auctions entitled "Connect America Fund Phase II: A Proposal for A State-And-County-Based Approach to Reverse Auctions for CAF Phase II Support" filed by USTelecom in these dockets on August 29, 2013. Our discussion followed the contours of that paper focusing on two key subjects – the geographic areas that should be subject to individual auction budgets and the geographic area for which auction participants may place bids. We discussed our position that auction budgets should generally be set at the state level based on support amounts determined by the Commission's CAM and that the appropriate geographic unit for bidding is counties. We also discussed the transition from legacy funding to CAF Phase II funding in an auction context and incentives that carriers are likely to balance in assessing the state level commitment and potential auction proceedings.

Pursuant to Commission rules, please include this ex parte letter in the above-identified proceedings.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan Banks".

Jonathan Banks
Senior Vice President, Law & Policy

c: Margaret Weiner
Martha Stancill
Carol Matthey
Amy Bender
Alexander Minard
Eric Ralphs